Frequently Asked Questions – Kinship Care

Q. If we placed a child in a relative's home via court order, can they just get the Kinship Care, they don't want to be licensed?

A. No

If a child is placed in a relative's home via a court order in that the County has care and placement responsibilities, they must proceed through the foster care licensing process in order to receive the payment. The Kinship Care payment is only there to supplement them until they are licensed. They must apply and qualify for Kinship in order to get that payment as well as foster care in order to become licensed. If the relative is determined to not be eligible for Kinship or licensing, the Kinship Worker will talk to them about their options.

Q. There is a child that I know who is living with a relative, but the parent of the child won't agree to Kinship Care. Can the relative still qualify?

A. No

If there is no guardianship order or CHIPS order, the parent must consent to the relative receiving the Kinship Care benefits. The relative should attempt to get the parental signature, but if they are not successful in locating the parent, the Kinship Care Worker will mail the agreement to the last known address. Failure to receive the form back would indicate approval and that would be indicated in the letter sent to the parent.